

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 39-58 are pending. Claims 43 and 44 have been amended to correct minor informalities. By this amendment, dependent claims 45-58 have been added. Support for the newly added claims can be found in the specification and claims, as originally filed. Specifically, support for the newly added claims can be found as follows:

Claim 45 – See the specification at page 5, line 21.

Claim 46 – See the specification at page 10, lines 5-7, and page 14, lines 9-11.

Claim 47 – See the specification at page 10, lines 7-9, and page 14, lines 9-11.

Claim 48 – See the specification at page 10, lines 1-3, and page 14, lines 9-11.

Claims 49-54 – See the specification at page 16, lines 7-15.

Claim 55 – See the specification at page 17, lines 11, 12.

Claim 56 – See original claim 21 and the specification at page 11, lines 15-21, and page 14, lines 16-20.

Claim 57 – See the specification at page 12, lines 12-15, and page 14, lines 16-20.

Claim 58 – See the specification at page 13, lines 1-6.

Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

II. Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 39-44 under the judicially created doctrine of obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No.

6,620,192. Office Action at page 2. While Applicant disagrees with the merits of this double patenting rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant has filed concurrently herewith a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,620,192.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that these grounds for rejection should be withdrawn as moot. All previously presented claims 39-44 and newly added dependent claims 45-58 are now believed to be in the condition for allowance.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims 39-58.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 28, 2005

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